Legal Aid Manitoba
L'Aide Juridique du Manitoba

Twelfth Annual Report

March 31, 1984

85-3706/

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba

Annual Report

1984

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1984

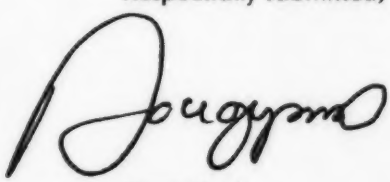
The Honourable Roland Penner, Q.C.
Attorney-General
Province of Manitoba
Room 104 — Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Section 24 of the Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba Act, I am pleased to submit the Twelfth Annual Report of the Society for the year ending March 31, 1984.

Detailed statistical information relating to clients, cases and costs is attached as Appendix A. The report of the Provincial Auditor is attached as Appendix B.

Respectfully submitted,



Doug Yard
Chairperson
Board of Directors

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General Observations

In the fiscal year ending March 31, 1983 it was reported that the Society had experienced unprecedented demand for legal aid services, resulting in significant increases in legal aid certificates issued over the previous year. With some stabilization in the economy and a decrease in unemployment in the Province, the demand on service in the fiscal year ending March 31, 1984 levelled off. There were 22,769 applications for legal aid in the year ending March 31, 1984 or an increase of 2% over the previous year. 17,668 certificates for legal aid were issued or an increase of 1% over the previous year. With a reorganization of service delivery systems through Community Law Centres, certificates issued to staff solicitors increased by 23.1% over the previous year, while certificates issued to the private bar decreased by 3.9%. The private bar accounted for 78% of all certificates issued, as compared to 82% in the previous year. Of the 17,668 certificates issued, 10,649 were criminal certificates or 60.1% of the total.

The number of people assisted through duty counselling services was 23,216 or an increase of 20% over last year and the number of people who received informal advice increased by 2.4% to 20,767.

Budget

The Society had requested an allocation of 8.1 million dollars from the Province to meet its cash requirements for the 1983/84 budget year. Only 7.251 million dollars was approved. Before completion of the year, supplementary funding in the amount of $865,000 was obtained, resulting in a readjusted budget of 8.116 million dollars. An additional $164,000 was generated through client contributions, cost recoveries and rebates from Child Caring Agencies on the provision of legal aid services to wards of those agencies. A further $56,000. was recovered ($8,000. was owing at year end) from the Federal Government to help defray the cost of operating the Society's Public Interest Law Department. Of all monies disbursed for the year ended March 31, 1984, 58.2% was on account of payments to the private bar, while the cost of operating the Society's Community Law Centres accounted for 28.2% of total disbursements. (Administration costs equalled 11.7% of disbursements and the Public Interest Law Department 1.9%.)

At year end the Province of Manitoba entered into a new agreement with the Government of Canada to share the cost of providing legal aid in criminal matters. This replaced an agreement which expired as of March 31, 1981 and which was extended for several years. In the year ending March 31, 1984, the Province can expect to recover approximately 1.65 million dollars from the Government of Canada for criminal legal aid expenditures. During the course of the year, agreement was reached between the Province and the Federal Department of Health and Welfare, by which the Canada Assistance Plan agreed to reimburse the Province for the provision of civil legal aid for people in need. Claims were accepted for costs incurred retroactive to August 1st, 1980 and as at March 31st, 1984, the Province had already received in excess of 1.3 million dollars from the Canada Assistance Plan on account of retroactive claims. It is anticipated that the Province will recover approximately $800,000. a year on account of current claims.

Financial Eligibility Guidelines

As at April 1st, 1983, the Society increased its financial eligibility guidelines. The guidelines were as follows:

Family Size	Allowable Gross Annual Income
1	$ 9,500.
2	12,000.
3	13,200.
4	14,300.
5	15,400.
6	16,500.
7	17,600.

In the last annual report, reference was made to the completion of a federally funded study into the Society's financial eligibility guidelines. After tabling of the report, the Federal Government agreed to expend a further $10,000. in order to study and recommend various options to increase the guidelines and project potential cost impacts. At the writing of this report, the analysis is nearing completion and it is expected that major changes to the Society's guidelines may take effect as of April 1st, 1985. In anticipation of receiving this analysis, the Board of Directors decided to maintain current financial eligibility guidelines through 1984/85, subject to further review in the fall of 1984.

Tariff and Fees for Service

During the course of the year, some representations were made to the Board of Directors from the organized bar, as to the need to increase the Legal Aid Tariff. Particular concern was expressed about the inadequacy of the domestic tariff. The Board did discuss with the Attorney-General a proposal to increase maximum preparation fees and block allowances for court attendances for domestic services, however additional monies requested for this purpose were not provided.

In the fiscal year ended March 31, 1984 there were 808 lawyers registered on legal aid panels (779 private bar and 29 staff) of which 646 were registered on the Winnipeg and Central Manitoba Panel and 162 on panels serving the Northern, Western, Selkirk-Interlake and Parklands areas of the Province. Of the 779 private bar lawyers on legal aid panels, 499 received payment on account of billings submitted in the year, of which 29 received in excess of $40,000. The following is an analysis of monies disbursed to private bar lawyers in various dollar categories:

Dollars	Number of Lawyers	Percentage
1 - 999	151	30.3
1,000 - 4,999	159	31.9
5,000 - 9,999	66	13.2
10,000 - 19,999	50	10.0
20,000 - 39,999	44	8.8
40,000 - 59,999	18	3.6
60,000 - 79,999	5	1.0
80,000 - 99,999	3	.6
100,000 and OVER	3	.6
	499	100.0

Board of Directors

As of April 1st, 1983 the Board of Directors consisted of the following people:

Doug Yard (Chairperson)
Randy McNichol (Vice-Chairperson)
Robb Tonn
Judy Cook Hannibal
Rose Marie Cuddy
Leonard Lucas
Rod Stephenson
Aaron Berg
Audreen Hourie
Vicki Francis
Nelson Thibault

During the year, the Board considered 223 refusal appeals (193 in the previous year) which resulted in 59 people being granted legal aid certificates (40 in the previous year). A total of 143 taxation appeals were considered (117 in the previous year) of which 73 were granted some increase over the original taxation (47 in the previous year).

Provincial Legal Aid

During the year, the Society continued its traditional close relationship with other legal aid plans in Canada, which culminated in the annual meeting of Provincial Legal Aid Directors in Charlottetown, P.E.I. in June 1983. In October 1983 a meeting was held in Edmonton, Alberta attended by officials from across the country responsible for administration of the reciprocal agreements in civil matters.

In the year ended March 31, 1984, the number of requests from other provinces and territories for the appointment of counsel in Manitoba (with last year's numbers in brackets) were as follows:

British Columbia	16	(27)
Alberta	14	(10)
Saskatchewan	12	(11)
Ontario	9	(15)
Quebec	4	(2)
New Brunswick	2	(1)
Yukon	2	(2)
Newfoundland	1	(—)
Nova Scotia	—	(2)
North West Territories	—	(2)
	60	(72)

Requests made by Manitoba to other provincial and territorial plans for appointment of counsel in those jurisdictions (with last year's numbers in brackets) were as follows:

Alberta	55	(39)
Ontario	33	(36)
British Columbia	27	(36)
Saskatchewan	20	(27)
Quebec	10	(3)
Nova Scotia	4	(4)
New Brunswick	4	(2)
North West Territories	3	(1)
Newfoundland	—	(3)
Yukon	—	(1)
	156	(152)

Community Legal Services

Early in 1983, discussions were undertaken with Community Law Centre staff in order to review cost impacts as a result of the increase in demand for service. Attempts were made to identify lower priority activities which could be eliminated or to which staff commitment of time could be reduced. More efficient delivery methods were explored. The object of this exercise was to find ways of increasing the certificate load handled by staff and thus minimize the cost of the increasing demand for service.

A number of lower priority programs were identified and eliminated, altered or reduced. Several less active duty counsel circuits were dropped. In a further effort to reduce costs a number of duty counsel circuits handled by the private bar were taken over by staff.

In July of 1983, the Ellen Street Community Law Centre was converted to a criminal law office. While the office continued to do some outreach work, provide drop-in advice and service to Stony Mountain Penitentiary and Headingley Correctional Institute, as well as being responsible for the Immigration Clinic, its major thrust became the handling of large numbers of criminal cases and the provision of duty counsel services at the Public Safety Building.

The expectation was that by concentrating most of the criminal defence work handled by staff in Winnipeg in one office, increased efficiencies would enable the office to handle a larger caseload. In addition it was hoped that the other offices, relieved of much of their criminal caseload, would also operate more efficiently.

In spite of the fact that there was considerable disruption caused by some of the changes, which did not take effect until three months into the 1983/84 fiscal year, the results were as follows:

- telephone and drop-in advice increased from the record high in the 1982/83 fiscal year of 20,256 people assisted, to 20,767 people assisted in 1983/84;
- persons assisted by staff duty counsel increased from 13,264 in the 1982/83 fiscal year to 16,350 in 1983/84;
- certificates issued to staff increased from 3,151 in 1982/83 to 3,874 in 1983/84.

The other major emphasis in the 1983/84 fiscal year was towards making Legal Aid services more accessible to people in Northern Manitoba. A third lawyer was added to the office at Thompson, and 50% more people were assisted by duty counsel in Northern Manitoba in 1983/84 than in 1982/83.

Public Interest Law

The Society's Public Interest Law Department was established in June 1982, with an attorney and a secretary, having a mandate to represent groups and organizations, particularly on issues affecting the interests of low-income people. With the assistance of federal funds ($64,000) granted by the Department of Justice, the Department was able to hire a paralegal and a second attorney.

With its expanded staff, the Department was able to deliver an increased number and variety of public interest legal services. On behalf of consumers, interventions were made before the Public Utilities Board at natural gas rate hearings, and an action was taken to review public transit service reductions. Inner-city residents of Winnipeg were represented before the Canadian Transport Commission at hearings to investigate a major collision and explosion in the CP rail yards. Legal assistance was also provided to the Neighbourhood Development Corporation which is renovating housing and services in the north Logan area of Winnipeg.

The legal right to an effective and meaningful education was raised by the Department on behalf of a group of parents and students in Amaranth, in western Manitoba. The needs of native students were central to this case, which was settled just prior to the court hearing. The Department also represented several groups with environmental concerns and a number of organizations of handicapped persons. In addition, informal advice and assistance was provided to a variety of low-income groups.

Prison conditions and prison reform have been major public interest issues in recent years. The Department brought a national test case on the use of double-bunking in the overcrowded federal prison system, and also represented inmates and inmate organizations at the Winnipeg Remand Centre and Headingley Correctional Institution in a number of legal proceedings.

In all, the Department opened some 60 files during the course of the year. Staff also conducted a Legal Aid training session on public interest practice, and prepared papers and lectures for Bar Admission and Manitoba Law School students on public interest and administrative law topics. A major law reform package concerning welfare appeals was researched and presented; discussions with two levels of government are continuing on this subject.

APPENDIX "A"

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Legal Aid Activity by Area

For the Year Ended March 31, 1984

(With the 1983 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Area	Applications for Legal Aid Certificates	Applications Refused	Certificates Issued Civil	Certificates Issued Criminal	Certificates Cancelled	Persons Assisted by Duty Counsel
Winnipeg	17,633 (17,340)	4,162 (4,048)	5,126 (5,555)	8,345 (7,737)	1,294 (1,062)	16,799 (14,231)
Brandon	2,084 (2,022)	398 (375)	846 (796)	840 (851)	50 (5)	2,045 (1,804)
Dauphin	1,033 (984)	174 (51)	326 (346)	503 (587)	6 (Nil)	877 (733)
Selkirk	895 (920)	192 (213)	265 (324)	438 (383)	1 (2)	256 (312)
The Pas & Thompson	1,154 (1,059)	175 (152)	456 (480)	523 (427)	6 (4)	3,239 (2,189)
Provincial Total	22,769 (22,325)	5,101 (4,839)	7,019 (7,501)	10,649 (9,985)	1,357 (1,073)	23,216 (19,269)

NOTES:

1. *In the fiscal year ended March 31, 1984 there was a total of* **17,668** *(17,486) certificates issued, including certificates issued to Community Law Centres as follows:*

Ellen Street	*1035*	*(619)*
Main Street	*775*	*(853)*
LaSem	*625*	*(491)*
Head Office	*82*	*(56)*
Westman	*318*	*(225)*
Parklands	*326*	*(291)*
The Pas & Thompson	*718*	*(616)*
	3,879	*(3,151)*

2. *In the fiscal year ended March 31, 1984 there was a total of* **23,216** *(19,269) people assisted by Duty Counselling services; of this total* **19,350** *were assisted by staff lawyers through the following Community Law Centres:*

Winnipeg — Ellen Street	*6,991*	
— Main Street	*3,897*	
— LaSem	*2,935*	*13,823*
Westman		*1,688*
Parklands		*868*
The Pas & Thompson		*2,971*
		19,350

3. For the fiscal year ended March 31, 1984 **22.4%** (21.7%) of the applicants for Legal Aid were refused.

4. For the year ended March 31, 1984 there was a total of **22,142** (20,256) telephone and drop-in inquiries broken down as follows:

Winnipeg — Ellen Street	2,172	(2,521)
— Main Street	6,650	(4,999)
— LaSem	2,048	(1,932)
— University	639	(639)
— Head Office	401	Not Recorded
Brandon	3,472	(3,175)
Dauphin	3,715	(4,863)
Selkirk	17	(21)
The Pas & Thompson	3,028	(2,106)
	22,142	(20,256)

For the year ending March 31, 1984 there was a total of **61,669** (55,938) people assisted by all Centres, either on a formal or informal basis.

A total of **585,423** people have been assisted in the period September 1, 1972 to March 31, 1984.

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Analysis of Certificates Issued

For the Year Ended March 31, 1984

(With the 1983 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
Criminal			
Homicide and Death by Criminal Negligence	49 (46)	7 (7)	56 (53)
Attempted Homicide and Wounding	56 (99)	10 (15)	66 (114)
Rape and Other Sexual Offences	176 (191)	76 (50)	252 (241)
Possession of Offensive Weapons	294 (316)	111 (80)	405 (396)
Assault	1,265 (877)	427 (183)	1,692 (1,060)
Contributing to Juvenile Delinquency	22 (22)	9 (6)	31 (28)
Robbery	271 (291)	46 (30)	317 (321)
Theft	1,523 (1,711)	308 (228)	1,831 (1,939)
Break and Enter	1,154 (1,434)	354 (243)	1,508 (1,677)
Possession of Stolen Property	431 (394)	63 (31)	494 (425)
Arson	29 (43)	7 (10)	36 (53)
Immigration	20 (28)	7 (7)	27 (35)
Fraud and False Pretenses	573 (623)	114 (42)	687 (665)
Narcotics	321 (345)	31 (38)	352 (383)
Motor Vehicle Offences	842 (827)	215 (160)	1,057 (987)
Breach of Probation and Escape Custody	554 (473)	102 (43)	656 (516)
Juvenile Transfers	155 (200)	34 (27)	189 (227)
Appeals — Crown	47 (30)	11 (4)	58 (34)
— Client	115 (129)	27 (18)	142 (147)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
Parole	16 (13)	2 (3)	18 (16)
Other	638 (555)	137 (113)	775 (668)
	8,551 (8,647)	2,098 (1,338)	10,649 (9,985)
Civil			
Divorce	1,112 (1,204)	393 (408)	1,505 (1,612)
Separation	1,659 (1,878)	430 (371)	2,089 (2,249)
Variation Applications	656 (738)	129 (148)	785 (886)
Custody	726 (753)	212 (229)	938 (982)
Adoption	53 (40)	68 (89)	121 (129)
Filiation	101 (188)	43 (42)	144 (230)
Immigration	37 (44)	21 (18)	58 (62)
U.I.C. & Worker's Compensation	19 (16)	23 (21)	42 (37)
Welfare Matters	39 (23)	65 (52)	104 (75)
Damage and Property Claims	240 (246)	118 (154)	358 (400)
Landlord and Tenant	43 (31)	14 (16)	57 (47)
Appeals	90 (102)	37 (41)	127 (143)
Other	432 (396)	196 (192)	628 (588)
Advice	31 (29)	32 (32)	63 (61)
	5,238 (5,688)	1,781 (1,813)	7,019 (7,501)

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Analysis of Completed Cases by Type of Aid

(Private Bar Only)

For the Year Ended March 31, 1984

(With 1983 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
Criminal			
Homicide and Death by Criminal Negligence	37 (53)	$ 201,130. (157,680.)	$ 5,435.94 (2,975.09)
Attempted Homicide and Wounding	55 (83)	44,360. (54,456.)	806.54 (656.09)
Rape and Other Sexual Offences	175 (163)	107,773. (95,482.)	615.84 (585.77)
Possession of Offensive Weapons	350 (326)	114,622. (115,077.)	327.49 (352.99)
Assault	970 (568)	315,923. (196,645.)	325.69 (346.20)
Contributing to Juvenile Delinquency	15 (15)	4,976. (7,405.)	331.73 (493.66)
Robbery	332 (309)	161,324. (143,531.)	485.91 (464.50)
Theft	1,646 (1,428)	478,645. (383,343.)	290.79 (268.44)
Break and Enter	1,376 (1,310)	446,388. (419,398.)	324.40 (320.15)
Possession of Stolen Property	441 (321)	133,937. (101,016.)	303.71 (314.69)
Arson	50 (49)	24,804. (23,753.)	496.08 (484.75)
Immigration	22 (29)	3,762. (6,132.)	171.00 (211.44)
Fraud and False Pretenses	643 (535)	202,458. (178,400.)	314.86 (333.45)
Narcotics — Indictable	206 (214)	79,219. (68,277.)	384.55 (319.05)
Narcotics — Non-indictable	108 (117)	27,812. (24,527.)	257.51 (209.63)
Motor Vehicle Offences — Federal Statutes	554 (491)	159,462. (138,641.)	287.83 (282.36)
— Provincial Statutes	292 (199)	79,353. (50,644.)	271.75 (254.49)
Breach of Probation and Escape Custody	545 (439)	139,857. (117,508.)	256.61 (267.67)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
Juvenile Transfers	152 (193)	61,018. (74,801.)	401.43 (387.56)
Appeals — Crown	36 (19)	$ 12,082. (7,119.)	$ 335.61 (374.68)
— Client	114 (114)	75,577. (76,960.)	662.95 (675.08)
Parole	12 (23)	2,355. (4,927.)	196.25 (214.21)
Other	543 (433)	160,108. (137,769.)	294.85 (318.17)
	8,674 (7,431)	3,036,945. (2,583,491.)	350.12 (347.66)
Civil			
Divorce	1,080 (1,004)	452,245. (338,056.)	418.74 (336.70)
Separation	1,616 (1,700)	464,679. (421,638.)	287.54 (248.02)
Variation Applications	652 (653)	228,587. (207,144.)	350.59 (317.21)
Custody	712 (676)	274,810. (241,469.)	385.96 (357.20)
Adoption	37 (36)	7,767. (12,021.)	209.91 (333.91)
Parentage Proceedings	142 (137)	44,296. (41,999.)	311.94 (306.56)
Immigration	28 (30)	5,991. (6,447.)	213.96 (214.90)
Welfare Matters	30 (21)	6,006. (4,097.)	200.20 (195.09)
Damage and Property Claims	190 (168)	78,453. (63,375.)	412.91 (377.23)
Landlord and Tenant	36 (36)	9,557. (5,674.)	265.47 (157.61)
Appeals	117 (104)	84,135. (68,555.)	719.10 (659.18)
Other	213 (168)	65,018. (44,586.)	305.24 (265.39)
	4,853 (4,733)	1,721,544. (1,455,061.)	354.73 (307.42)
Legal Advice	37 (42)	6,398. (4,966.)	172.91 (118.23)
Total Completed Cases	13,564 (12,206)	4,764,887. (4,043,518.)	351.28 (331.27)

NOTE: *As at March 31, 1984 there were approximately 11,890 cases yet to be completed and paid.*

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Legal Aid Fees and Disbursements

(Private Bar Only)

For the Year Ended March 31, 1984

(With the 1983 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

	Fees	Disbursements	Total	Completed Cases	Average Cost Per Case
Criminal					
Winnipeg	$2,409,453. (1,988,159.)	$ 176,633. (112,138.)	$2,586,086. (2,100,297.)	7,203 (5,877)	$ 359.02 (357.37)
Brandon	165,319. (172,239.)	9,167. (5,578.)	174,486. (177,817.)	616 (661)	283.25 (269.01)
Dauphin	93,429. (121,749.)	2,653. (3,934.)	96,082. (125,683.)	321 (395)	299.32 (318.18)
Selkirk	114,821. (101,117.)	10,335. (9,132.)	125,156. (110,249.)	394 (337)	317.65 (327.14)
The Pas & Thompson	51,172. (64,465.)	3,963. (4,980.)	55,135. (69,445.)	140 (161)	393.82 (431.33)
Civil					
Winnipeg	1,120,956. (964,670.)	247,136. (174,189.)	1,368,092. (1,138,859.)	3,657 (3,550)	374.10 (320.80)
Brandon	165,883. (135,468.)	38,848. (27,194.)	204,731. (162,662.)	690 (594)	296.71 (273.84)
Dauphin	40,510. (43,938.)	8,191. (9,451.)	48,701. (53,389.)	156 (168)	312.18 (317.79)
Selkirk	55,122. (51,489.)	12,545. (12,748.)	67,667. (64,237.)	223 (284)	303.43 (226.18)
The Pas & Thompson	27,750. (31,106.)	4,603. (4,808.)	32,353. (35,914.)	127 (137)	254.74 (262.14)
Advice					
Winnipeg	4,327. (4,043.)	284. (129.)	4,611. (4,172.)	25 (35)	184.44 (119.20)
Other Areas	1,446. (773.)	341. (21.)	1,787. (794.)	12 (7)	148.91 (113.42)
Total Completed Cases	$4,250,188. (3,679,216.)	$ 514,699. (364,302.)	$4,764,887. (4,043,518.)	13,564 (12,206)	$ 351.28 (331.27)
Pre-Completion Disbursements	Nil (Nil)	120,268. (99,953.)	120,268. (99,953.)		
	$4,250,188. (3,679,216.)	$ 634,967. (464,255.)	$4,885,155. (4,143,471.)		

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Analysis of Completed Cases by Court

(Private Bar Only)

For the Year Ended March 31, 1984

(With 1983 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Court	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
Provincial (Criminal Division)	7,035 (5,720)	$2,113,586. (1,717,772.)	$ 300.43 (300.30)
Juvenile	812 (843)	262,075. (269,709.)	325.55 (319.93)
Family	1,639 (1,613)	616,447. (587,380.)	376.11 (364.15)
County	622 (538)	406,516. (383,444.)	653.56 (712.72)
Queen's Bench	1,553 (1,213)	933,957. (689,021.)	601.38 (568.03)
Surrogate	10 (2)	5,192. (777.)	519.20 (388.50)
Court of Appeal	126 (132)	119,941. (126,712.)	951.91 (959.93)
Supreme Court	15 (11)	28,033. (18,197.)	1,868.86 (1,654.27)
Review Boards	109 (98)	25,760. (22,755.)	236.33 (232.19)
Matters Not Resulting in Trial Proceedings	1,613 (1,994)	246,982. (222,785.)	153.11 (111.72)
Legal Advice Only	37 (42)	6,398. (4,966.)	172.91 (118.23)
Total Completed Cases	13,564 (12,206)	$4,764,887. (4,043,518.)	$ 351.28 (331.27)

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Duty Counsel Fees and Disbursements

(Private Bar Only)

For the Year Ended March 31, 1984

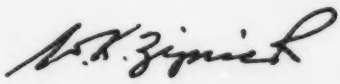
(With 1983 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

	Persons Assisted	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Person Assisted
Winnipeg	1,178 (2,928)	$ 16,159. (48,228.)	$ 13.71 (16.47)
Brandon	357 (578)	7,158. (12,100.)	20.05 (20.93)
Dauphin	9 (82)	271. (2,129.)	30.11 (25.96)
Selkirk	256 (312)	8,287. (8,570.)	32.37 (27.46)
The Pas & Thompson	268 (382)	16,711. (25,512.)	62.35 (66.78)
Total	2,068 (4,282)	$ 48,586. (96,539.)	$ 23.49 (22.54)

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba
Report of the Provincial Auditor's Office

We have examined the financial statements, being Exhibits A and B and Schedules 1 to 3 of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1984. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests and other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly the position of the Fund of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba as at March 31, 1984 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policy stated in Note 2, Exhibit A, applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.



W. K. Ziprick, C.A.,
Provincial Auditor.

September 19, 1984,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Statement of Fund
as at March 31, 1984

(With 1983 Figures for Comparison)

	1984	1983
Fund balance beginning of year	$ 10,042	$ 17,733
Excess of receipts over (under) disbursements, Exhibit B	7,304	(7,691)
Fund balance end of year	$ 17,346	$ 10,042
Fund balance represented by:		
Cash on hand and in bank	$ 184,003	$ 91,880
Cheques issued and outstanding	(166,657)	(81,838)
Fund balance end of year	$ 17,346	$ 10,042

1. Objective of the Society

The objective of the Society is to assist individuals, groups and organizations who, left to their own means, could not retain the services of a lawyer. Clients may be charged a fee based on their ability to pay.

Legal aid may be furnished, by the Society's Public Interest Department, to groups and organizations involving matters of an interest common to members of the group and relating to issues of public interest such as, but not restricted to, consumer and environmental issues.

Legal aid may be provided to wards of agencies if they would otherwise be eligible for legal aid. The cost of the legal aid provided is recovered from the agencies.

2. Significant Accounting Policy

The Society presents its financial statements on a cash basis, with the exception of accounting for grants from the Province of Manitoba. With respect to these grants, the Society takes into receipts amounts due from the Province for payments for private bar fees and disbursements made by the Society prior to March 31 of each year, when these are reimbursed by the Province out of funds voted for the year then ended.

3. Certificate Holdbacks

Acting under the authority of Manitoba Regulations 106/72 and 1112/81, the Society's Board of Directors established holdbacks in respect of legal aid certificates approved during the years ended March 31, 1979 and March 31, 1980. The holdbacks are applicable regardless of when the billings for services are rendered.

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Statement of Fund
as at March 31, 1984

(With 1983 Figures for Comparison)

4. Legal Assistance — Northern Community Councils

The Society administers an agreement between the Province of Manitoba, Department of Northern Affairs, and a private legal counsel regarding provision of legal advice and service to the Northern Association of Community Councils pursuant to the Northern Flood Agreement. The Society reviews and processes for payment the billings of the legal counsel and is reimbursed by the Province of Manitoba.

5. Financial Eligibility Study

In 1983 the Society entered into an agreement with the Federal Department of Justice to conduct a study of financial eligibility criteria for legal aid recipients of Manitoba. The Society's share of the agreement was to contribute $10,000 as well as to provide services and facilities to the researchers. The Society paid $5,000 in each of the fiscal years ending March 31, 1983 and March 31, 1984. The Federal Department of Justice's contribution towards the study was $50,000. The study has been completed and is now under review.

6. General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses incurred to provide services of the Public Interest Department and the Society's other programs are reflected in the Schedule of General and Administrative Expenses.

7. Significant Commitments, Liabilities and Receivables

	March 31 1984	1983
Estimated total commitments for future billings on outstanding legal aid certificates	$ 3,308,000	$ 3,102,000
Approximate liability for legal aid certificate billings received but unpaid	$ 540,000	$ 422,000
Approximate liability for duty counsel billings received but unpaid	4,500	11,000
Approximate liability for unpaid general and administrative, Community Law Centre and Public Interest Department operating expenses	87,000	179,000
	$ 631,500	$ 612,000
Accounts receivable respecting contributions and judgements (without allowance for doubtful accounts)	$ 115,000	$ 133,000

Exhibit B

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements
for the year ended March 31, 1984

(With 1983 Figures for Comparison)

	1984	1983
Receipts:		
Province of Manitoba — grants (Note 2)	$ 5,538,825	$ 4,877,700
— salaries and other payments	2,577,285	1,951,992
— legal assistance — Northern Community Councils (Note 4)	25,926	—
Government of Canada — grant re Public Interest Department	56,424	—
Contributions from clients	91,128	107,258
Recoveries — wards of agencies	43,085	6,531
— Public Interest Department	5,478	—
— settlement of claim	—	4,000
Judgment costs and settlements	29,403	25,555
Other	2,283	405
Total receipts	8,369,837	6,973,441
Disbursements:		
Private bar fees and disbursements:		
Legal aid certificates	4,784,901	4,081,586
Less: certificate holdbacks (Note 3)	5,008	9,703
	4,779,893	4,071,883
Duty counsel services	70,055	116,244
	4,849,948	4,188,127
Community Law Centres, Schedule 1	2,349,376	1,839,724
Public Interest Department, Schedule 2	156,163	56,395
General and administrative, Schedule 3	971,986	863,580
Contribution to Law Society — Law Phone-In program	9,134	17,806
Legal assistance — Northern Community Councils (Note 4)	25,926	—
Settlement of claim	—	15,500
Total disbursements	8,362,533	6,981,132
Excess of receipts over (under) disbursements, Exhibit A	$ 7,304	$ (7,691)

Schedule 1

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Community Law Centres
Schedule of Operating Expenses
for the year ended March 31, 1984
(With 1983 Figures for Comparison)

	1984	1983
Advertising and information	$ 357	$ 2,007
Advisory committee fees and expenses	—	277
Certificate disbursements	103,132	99,251
Duplicating services and supplies	21,573	20,688
Fly-in duty counsel program — travel	31,092	45,730
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements — net of disposals	8,476	4,846
Health and post secondary education tax levy	23,935	10,641
Library	26,968	22,621
Maintenance	15,012	16,208
Meetings and seminars	5,781	10,133
Office and postage	80,302	64,515
Rent	85,677	80,573
Salaries and benefits — professional	1,480,434	1,040,206
— clerical	346,295	303,703
Staff recruitment	1,038	2,017
Stationery and forms	2,414	2,682
Sundry	561	433
Telephone	54,482	47,779
Travel	46,925	52,017
Utilities	14,922	13,397
Total, Exhibit B	$ 2,349,376	$ 1,839,724

Schedule 2

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Public Interest Department
Schedule of Operating Expenses
for the year ended March 31, 1984
(With 1983 Figures for Comparison

	1984	1983
Expert witnesses and consultants	$ 17,527	$ 3,541
File disbursements	6,506	—
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements — net of disposals	—	2,382
Health and post secondary education tax levy	1,542	457
Meetings and seminars	—	136
Salaries and benefits	123,628	46,254
Sundry	1,876	2,877
Travel	5,084	748
Total, Exhibit B	$ 156,163	$ 56,395

Schedule 3

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Schedule of General and Administrative Expenses
for the year ended March 31, 1984

(With 1983 Figures for Comparison)

	1984	1983
Advertising and information	$ 712	$1,043
Collections	4,692	4,858
Data processing	1,719	1,585
Directors' fees and expenses	21,594	30,453
Duplicating services and supplies	8,678	6,645
Financial eligibility study (Note 5)	5,000	5,000
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements — net of disposals	9,011	15,450
Health and post secondary education tax levy	9,978	4,153
Library	5,554	6,591
Maintenance	2,647	1,924
Meetings and seminars	2,277	6,021
Office and postage	50,393	53,124
Professional fees	14,736	16,534
Rent	56,092	49,708
Salaries, honoraria and benefits	726,146	608,552
Staff recruitment	485	—
Stationery and forms	17,909	13,084
Sundry	930	9,460
Telephone	19,397	17,083
Travel	11,175	9,907
Utilities	2,861	2,405
Total, Exhibit B	$ 971,986	$ 863,580